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## DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE

16 December 1986

The Proposed Memorandum of Understanding Between US and  
South Korea for Control of High Technology Exports

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South Korea's Ministry of Foreign Affairs is now coordinating an interministerial effort to produce policy recommendations on an export control regime for review and decision by Cabinet-level officials. Each ministry will produce a study and submit proposals on its export control responsibilities.

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Because most South Koreans have apparently accepted the urgent need for more stringent export controls, we expect negotiations with Washington on an MOU could begin as early as March 1987.

-- Nonetheless, some South Korean officials and businessmen are still concerned that stronger export controls will hurt trade, and have not recognized that the focus of the MOU is national security, not trade.

This memorandum was prepared by the Office of East Asian Analysis. Information available as of 16 December was used in its preparation. Comments and queries are welcome and may be directed to the Chief, Security Technology Issues Branch, Northeast Asia Division, OEA

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[REDACTED]

-- South Korea is still debating whether to use government apparatus or private export trade associations to monitor exports under a new control regime.

-- South Korean Cabinet-level officials will probably not be receptive to implementing COCOM controls they had no hand in establishing. They might be more willing to move quickly on the MOU if the United States could involve South Korea in COCOM -- perhaps with informal observer status or frequent US-South Korean consultations on COCOM issues. [REDACTED]

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SUBJECT: The Proposed Memorandum of Understanding Between  
the United States and South Korea for Control of  
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